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## EDITORIAL.

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At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Academy, held January 25, 1902, Professor Lindsay tendered his resignation as president. He explained that acceptance of the position of Commissioner of Education of Porto Rico compelled his immediate departure for his new field of activity, and insisted that it would be detrimental to the best interests of the Academy to retain him in his responsible office when so far removed from the active work of the organization. With great reluctance the directors were forced to admit the wisdom of his decision and the resignation was accepted. Professor Rowe, the first vice-president of the Academy, was unanimously elected president, and Professor Lindsay was persuaded to accept the position of first vice-president.

In wishing Professor Lindsay the fullest measure of success and happiness in his new work, it is a pleasure to recall to members of the Academy his notable services to the society during the many years of his connection with it. He became interested in the organization while he was still a student at the University of Pennsylvania. How active that interest remained while he studied abroad in the years 1892, '93 and '94 is attested by the list of his contributions to the *ANNALS*<sup>1</sup> during that period. Returning to Philadelphia in the summer of 1894 to accept a position at his *Alma Mater*, he soon made himself the trusted leader of the group of young men who became connected with the Academy at about the same time. In January, 1895, he originated the important department of *Sociological Notes* in the *ANNALS* and continued to edit it until January, 1901, when the pressure of other duties compelled him to entrust the task to Doctors Devine and Hagerty.

When Professor James left Philadelphia in 1896, to go to Chicago, Professor Lindsay became the chief assistant of Professor Falkner in the administrative work of the Academy. He showed such marked capacity in this department that it was decided two years later to separate the administrative from the publishing activities of the society, and Professor Lindsay assumed direction of the former as first vice-president. From that time until the present he has been, to an ever-increasing extent, the active head of the organization. On Professor Falkner's entry into the public service in 1900, Professor Lindsay was chosen associate editor of the *ANNALS*, and on Professor James's retirement from the presidency a few months later, he succeeded to the

<sup>1</sup> Cf. *Personal Note*, vol. v, p. 418, November, 1894.

position which he had for two years filled so creditably in all but name. Since January, 1900, he has thus occupied a position similar to that held by the honored founder of the Academy during the first six years of its life. As Professor James is entitled to credit for the origination of the Academy idea and the successful direction of the organization during its formative years, so Professor Lindsay deserves the honor of having brought it to its fullest efficiency. The two years of his administration have been the most fruitful and prosperous that the Academy has yet enjoyed, and if it is now on a basis which makes even Professor Lindsay's retirement possible without a serious curtailment of its activities, it is largely to his talent for organization and untiring zeal that the result is due.

The progress made under Professor Lindsay's guidance has been in several different directions. The monthly meetings in Philadelphia have been raised to the dignity of notable events in the social, and even more in the intellectual, life of the city. Annual meetings have been instituted and the papers on questions of the day presented on these occasions have come to be recognized as contributions to the literature of the social sciences which no serious student can afford to neglect. These meetings have brought to Philadelphia each winter a distinguished list of speakers, and that the efforts of the Academy in this direction are appreciated is shown by the increase in the local membership of the society to 493. Not only the city membership, but the general membership and the number of subscribers have increased. Most noteworthy is the increase in the number of life members from twelve to fifty-three, which has been the direct result of Professor Lindsay's personal attention. The increased membership affords larger income for useful work. But what has been done could not be accomplished by the expenditure of members' fees alone. From the first it has been the Academy's policy to defray the expenses of the annual meetings from special contributions. Professor Lindsay has done valuable service not only in securing subscriptions to the annual meeting funds, but in interesting in the work of the Academy, leaders in business and in public life, whose attention might not otherwise have been called to the society.

Professor Lindsay's success in directing the affairs of the Academy is prophetic of the larger success that awaits him in Porto Rico. Since the Academy must lose him it is pleasant to think that his abilities are to be devoted to the interests of the new wards of the nation, and on that most important side, education. We feel sure that we voice the thoughts of all members of the Academy in wishing him good speed in his new work.

It is a happy coincidence that at the very time that Professor Lind-

say has decided to enter the service of Porto Rico, Professor Rowe has completed his work as Chairman of the Commission to Revise the Laws of that island, and has returned to resume his duties at the University of Pennsylvania. Before leaving Philadelphia to enter the public service in the summer of 1900, Professor Rowe was as active as the president himself in organizing the meetings of the Academy. He has also been from the beginning the editor of the earliest and perhaps most important special department of the ANNALS, the *Notes on Municipal Government*. Thus as regards both the principal activities of the Academy, Professor Rowe is admirably equipped for his new duties as president. His experience of public affairs and his tireless industry insure a successful administration, and the Academy is to be congratulated on being able to command his services for duties as onerous as they are honorable.

HENRY R. SEAGER.